

FILED/ACCEPTED

FEB 25 2011

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Senator Troy Dale Jackson
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

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Allagash, ME 04774
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Cell (207) 436-0763

February 24, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Lifeline and Link Up
CC Docket No. 96-45; WC Docket 03-109**

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing today to commend the efforts of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service and Lifeline and Link Up. As I am sure you agree, the Lifeline program provides an invaluable service to low-income constituents in our districts and across the country. I am glad the Board has decided to look for ways to minimize fraud, waste and abuse in the program. I strongly encourage the Federal Communications Commission to ensure the Lifeline program continues to provide phone access to deserving and qualified families.

As our nation struggles to overcome unemployment and other economic challenges, the Lifeline program is more valuable than ever. Reports both academic and anecdotal have shown that access to phone service leads to greater chances of employment. My district's residents should be able to access these services in the case of an emergency. Maine's ten Community Action Programs, together with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Telephone Association of Maine, ensure that assistance through the Lifeline program is widely available for those in need.

I agree wholeheartedly with the Board's recommendations that the Commission put together a plan for uniformity on areas that would apply to all Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs) that would help eliminate waste and abuse in this program. In doing so, however, I want to make sure that low-income support of the fund remains strong. This is such a beneficial program to Maine residents our concern is that it remain accessible and free to those who qualify.

TTY (207) 287-1583 • Message Service 1-800-423-6900 • Web Site: legislature.maine.gov/senate
email: jacksonforsenate@hotmail.com

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(FCC letter, p. 2)

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I urge the Commission to adopt the recommendations from the Federal-State Joint Board, as I would like to see these programs be sustainable in the short and long-term. The ability of the most economically challenged citizens of this country to have access to free phone service is of critical concern to Maine. I urge you to not adopt policies that would cap support for this program, or in any way limit competition in a marketplace that is already underserved.

Thank you for your service to our constituents and this country. I look forward to seeing your proposed changes to strengthen these vital programs.

Sincerely,



Senator Troy Jackson
Senate District 35

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

125th Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 19

Senator Seth A. Goodall
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

5 Church Street
Richmond, ME 04357
Home (207) 737-4797

February 24, 2011

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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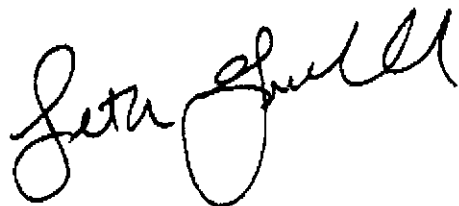
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seth Goodall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Seth" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Goodall".

Senator Seth A. Goodall
Senate District 19

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker



Senator Stan Gerzofsky
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

3 Federal Street
Brunswick, ME 04011
(207) 373-1328 Home

February 24, 2011

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,



Senator Stanley Gerzovsky
Senate District 10

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker



Senator Dawn Hill
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

PO Box 701
Cape Neddick, ME 03902
(207) 337-3689 Business

February 24, 2011

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: **Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Lifeline and Link Up**
CC Docket No. 96-45; WC Docket 03-109

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Sincerely,



Senator Dawn Hill
Senate District 1

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

125th Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 16

Senator Margaret M. Craven
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

41 Russell Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
Home (207) 783-1897

February 24, 2011

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,



Senator Margaret M. Craven
Senate District 16

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

*125th Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 9*

Senator Joseph C. Brannigan
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

168 Concord Street
Portland, ME 04103
(207) 772-6047 Home

February 24, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,



Senator Joseph C. Brannigan
Senate District 9

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker



Senator Lawrence Bliss
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

504 Cottage Road
South Portland, ME 04106
(207) 799-8229 Home

February 24, 2011

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445 12th Street, SW
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Sincerely,



Senator Lawrence Bliss
Senate District 7

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker



Senator Philip L. Bartlett II
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

141 South Street
Gorham, ME 04038
(207) 839-7827 Home

February 24, 2011

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Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,



Senator Philip L. Bartlett II
Senate District 6

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker



Senator Justin Alfond
Assistant Democratic Leader
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
Office (207) 287-1515

134 Sheridan Street
Portland, ME 04101
Cell (207) 232-4187
Home (207) 828-0277

February 24, 2011

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Washington, DC 20554

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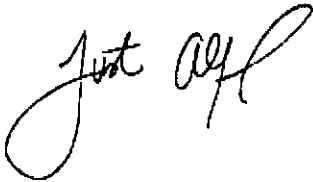
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Justin Alford".

Senator Justin Alford
Senate District 8

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker



Senator Nancy B. Sullivan
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

20 Westwood Drive
Biddeford, ME 04005
(207) 282-5594 Home

February 24, 2011

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445 12th Street, SW
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Sincerely,



Senator Nancy Sullivan
Senate District 4

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker